

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the above-identified application.

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-10 (Canceled).

11. (Currently Amended) A method for storing and playing back a message via an electrical device, the electrical device including a record/read unit for a chip card, the method comprising the steps of:

- removably receiving the chip card from a user by the record/read unit;
- inputting acoustically the message via at least one of a microphone, a radio receiver and a cassette deck;
- digitizing the inputted message via a voice digitization module of the electrical device;
- buffering the digitized message until the chip card is received by the record/read unit if the chip card is not concurrently received by the record/read unit;
- storing the digitized message in a memory module of the chip card removably received by the record/read unit; and
- outputting from the memory module of the chip card at least one of (A) the stored message upon request automatically after the electrical device is powered up and (B) the stored message upon request in a user-initiated fashion;
- wherein the electrical device is an automobile radio device.

Claim 12. (Canceled).

13. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 11, wherein the step of outputting includes the step of outputting acoustically.

14. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 11, wherein the step of outputting includes the step of outputting via a display.

15. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 11, wherein the step of outputting includes the step of playing back the message via the electrical device.

16. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 11, wherein the step of outputting includes the step of playing back the message via a second device.

17. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 11, wherein the step of outputting includes the step of playing back the message via a display.

18. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 11, wherein the step of outputting includes the step of playing back the message via a voice output.

19. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 11, wherein a length of the message depends on a memory capacity of the chip card.

20. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 11, wherein the step of inputting includes the step of displaying remaining free memory space in the memory module of the chip card.

21. (Currently Amended) An electrical device, comprising:

a record/read unit that is configured to removably receive a chip card from a user;
an input device for inputting an acoustic message;
a voice digitization module for digitizing the received acoustic message; ~~and~~
a control system, the control system storing the digitized message in a memory module of the chip card, the chip card being inserted into the record/read unit by a user, the record/read unit outputting the stored message when at least one of (A) the electrical device is powered up and (B) a user-initiation commences; and
an arrangement to buffer the digitized message until the chip card is received by the record/read unit if the chip card is not concurrently received in the record/read unit,
wherein the electrical device is an automobile radio device.

Claim 22. (Canceled).

23. (Previously Presented) The electrical device according to claim 21, wherein the input device includes at least one of a microphone, a radio receiver, and a cassette deck.

24. (Previously Presented) The electrical device according to claim 21, wherein the record/read unit outputs the stored message acoustically.
25. (Previously Presented) The electrical device according to claim 21, wherein the record/read unit outputs the stored message via a display.
26. (Previously Presented) The electrical device according to claim 21, wherein the input device includes circuitry adapted to allow an audio input of the message via multiple input devices.
27. (Previously Presented) The electrical device according to claim 26, wherein the multiple input devices include at least one of a microphone, a radio receiver, and a cassette deck.
28. (Currently Amended) An automobile radio device, comprising:
a record/read unit that is configured to removably receive a chip card from a user;
a display;
an input device for inputting an acoustic message;
a voice digitization module for digitizing the received acoustic message; and
a control system including a microprocessor, the microprocessor storing the digitized message in a memory module of the chip card, the chip card being inserted into the record/read unit, the control system accommodating a voice output of the stored message, the record/read unit outputting the stored message via the display when at least one of (A) the automobile radio device is powered up and (B) a user-initiation commences; and
an arrangement to buffer the digitized message until the chip card is received by the record/read unit if the chip card is not concurrently received in the record/read unit.
29. (Previously Presented) The automobile radio device according to claim 28, wherein the input device includes circuitry adapted to allow an audio input of the message via multiple input devices.
30. (Previously Presented) The automobile radio device according to claim 29, wherein the multiple input devices include at least one of a microphone, a radio receiver, and a cassette deck.

31. (Currently Amended) A method for storing and playing back a message via an automobile radio device, the automobile radio device including a record/read unit for a chip card, the method comprising:

removably receiving a chip card from a user into the record/read unit;

acoustically receiving the message via an input device;

digitizing the received message via a voice digitization module of the automobile radio device;

buffering the digitized message until the chip card is received by the record/read unit if the chip card is not concurrently received by the record/read unit;

storing the digitized message in a memory module of the chip card; and

outputting from the memory module of the chip card at least one of (A) the stored message upon request automatically after the automobile radio device is powered up and (B) the stored message upon request in a user-initiated fashion.

32. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 31; further comprising:

selecting the input device from a plurality of input devices, and wherein the acoustically receiving step includes acoustically receiving the message via the selected input device.

33. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 32, wherein the plurality of input devices includes at least one of a radio receiver, a microphone and a cassette deck.

34. (Previously Presented) The electrical device as recited in claim 21, wherein the read/record unit is configured to be mounted in an automobile.

35. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 11, further comprising:

providing the voice digitization module is an integral part of the automobile radio device.

36. (Previously Presented) The electrical device according to claim 21, wherein the voice digitization module is an integral part of the automobile radio device.

37. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 31, wherein the voice digitization module is an integral part of the automobile radio device.